

[illegible]

1 1. A method of managing a data system designed to ensure the integrity of data and a  
2 file system designed to manage files, comprising the steps of:

- 3 (a) ensuring data from an external sources is received by the data system;
- 4 (b) ensuring the data is copied from the data system to the file system; and
- 5 (c) interpreting metadata to ensure data integrity is maintained during the copying  
6 of data from the data system to the file system.

1        3.        The method of claim 2 wherein the metadata is stored in the relational database.

The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

(d) directing a request to retrieve the data to:

the data system when the request is made prior to when the metadata indicates

that the step of copying the data to the file system has been completed;

or

the file system after the metadata indicates that the step of copying the data to

the file system has been completed.

1        7.        The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of using the metadata to determine  
2        whether a request to retrieve the data should be directed to the file system.

1        8.        The method of claim 1 wherein the metadata includes information concerning  
2        location of a most recent version of the data and the step of using the metadata.

1        9.        The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of using the information  
2        concerning location to determine where a request to retrieve the data should be directed.

1     10.     The method of claim 3 wherein the integrity of the data is ensured during copy,  
2     transfer, delete, wipe, rename, and backup operations through use of the metadata.

1     11.     The method of claim 3 wherein the integrity of the data is ensured during copy,  
2     transfer, delete, wipe, rename, and backup operations through use of the metadata by using  
3     minimum ACID protocols.

1      12.      The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of applying a filter to the data  
2      during the step copying the data from the data system to a file system.

1     14.     A method for storing data, comprising the steps of:

- 2 (a) initially receiving the data into a data system that is designed to ensure the  
3 integrity of the data;
- 4 (b) copying the data from the data system to a file system, designed to manage  
5 files, using protocols that ensure the integrity of data during the copying; and
- 6 (c) creating metadata that can be used to ensure the integrity of the data and  
7 describe and track the state and location of the data.

1     15.     A method of transferring data between a first system and a second system while  
2     ensuring the integrity of the data, comprising the steps of:

- 3 (a) using metadata to determine when the data transfer is in progress;  
4 (b) using metadata to determine when the data transfer has been successfully  
5 completed; and  
6 (c) using the metadata to indicate when rollback procedures can be initiated from  
7 a backup.

1      16.      The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of directing a request to access  
2      the data to the second system when the metadata indicates that a data transfer has been  
3      successfully completed.

- 1 17. The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of directing a request to access
- 2 the data to the first system when the metadata does not indicate that a data transfer has been
- 3 successfully completed.